

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An implant for use in replacing a nonfunctional tooth, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the implant comprising:
 - an abutment; and
 - a base having a topography this is substantially identical to that of the root of the nonfunctional tooth.
2. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are fabricated from a single piece of material.
3. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are unitary.
4. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is etched.
5. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is sand blasted.
6. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is coated with an integration-enhancing material.
7. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment is configured to receive a removable prosthesis.
8. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are non-unitary.
9. The implant of claim 8 wherein the abutment is threadingly engaged to the base.
10. The implant of claim 9 wherein the base includes a threaded hole and the abutment includes a screw for engaging with the threaded hole.
11. The implant of claim 1 further comprising a collar disposed between the abutment and the base.

12. A method for making a implant for a nonfunctional tooth, the implant having a base and an abutment, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the method comprising:

receiving data indicative of the topography of at least the subgingival portion of the nonfunctional tooth; and

utilizing the data to mill an implant with a base having a topography that is substantially identical to that of the root of the nonfunctional tooth.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the implant is milled from a single piece of material.

14. The method of claim 12 further comprising refining the implant.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the refining step comprises treating the surface of the base of the implant.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the treating step comprises etching.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the treating step comprises sand blasting.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the treating step comprises hydroxyapatite coating the base.

19. The method of claim 15 wherein the treating step comprises modifying the surface for enhancing integration with bone.

20. The method of claim 14 wherein the refining step comprises boring at least one hole into the base of the implant.

21. The method of claim 14 wherein the refining step comprising machining a collar between the base and the abutment.

22. The method of claim 12 further comprising sterilizing the implant.

23. The method of claim 12 further comprising packaging the implant.

24. A method for replacing a nonfunctional tooth, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the method comprising:

receiving an implant having a base and an abutment, the base having a topography that is substantially identical to that of the root;

extracting the nonfunctional tooth, thereby leaving a site;

implanting the implant in the site

25. The method of claim 24 further comprising preparing the site prior to implanting.

26. The method for claim 25 wherein the preparing step comprises removing ligament fibers.

27. The method of claim 24 further comprising treating the implant after implanting.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the treating step comprises temporizing the implant.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein the treating step comprises stabilizing the implant.

30. A method of claim 29 wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with wire.

31. A method of claim 29 wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with a lingual plate.

32. A method of claim 29 wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with a temporary crown.

33. The method of claim 24 further comprising installing a permanent crown on the abutment.